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CJI CALLS FOR 50% QUOTA FOR WOMEN IN JUDICIARY

CJI N V Ramana urged women to 'shout with anger and seek 50% reservation' in all courts not as charity but as their right

MAJOR GENDER SKEW IN REPRESENTATION

Ramana was addressing an event organised by the lady advocates of SC to honour nine newly-appointed judges. The CJI said women constituted less than 30% of the lower judiciary, while at the HC level, they were a meagre 11%. "Amongst the 1.7 million lawyers, only 15% are women. They form 2% of the elected representatives at state bar councils," he said

URGES EXECUTIVE TO TAKE ACTION

- Tweaking a famous Karl Marx quote, he said: "Women of the world unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains." Ramana listed out many institutional problems faced by women, including the lack of separate toilets in 78% of the 6,000 courts in India
- He urged the executive to correct this gender skew in judiciary

Four

WOMEN JUDGES IN THE SUPREME COURT'S BENCHES AT PRESENT

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For eleven years now, we at *The New Indian Express* have brought you a dedicated, informative and vibrant education supplement every single Monday. We haven't waxed or waned, depending on the season and continued to publish *Edex* week on week even through a debilitating pandemic that has dented the industry. Through its tabloid pages, we have chronicled the constantly changing paradigms of campus life and have attempted to stay 'with it'. In keeping with that tradition of moving and evolving with India's upwardly mobile young, *Edex* will be transitioning to an all-digital platform. The edition dated September 27, 2021, will be the last time you see us in print.

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Over time, we hope to offer you all this in regional Indian languages so that a larger proportion of readers can access and benefit from our content.

We'll see you online.

-Editor

IT'S A SUN-DAY

In a rare phenomenon, the sun is seen surrounded by a halo, at Kumta Beach in Uttara Kannada district on Sunday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS READ

PM to launch Digital Health Mission today

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the Pradhan Mantri Digital Health Mission (PM-DHM) on Monday, his office said. The pilot project of National Digital Health Mission had been announced by the Prime Minister from the ramparts of the Red Fort on August 15, 2020 | P7

Bharat Bandh today, traffic likely to be hit

Bengaluru: The Samyukt Kisan Morcha's Bharat Bandh, in protest against the three farm laws propsed by the Centre, on Monday may affect traffic across the state. Various pro-farmer, Kannada and left organisations, and Opposition parties are expected to participate in the stir | P4,7

UP, Punjab attempt caste balance

PRASADA GIVEN BERTH TO PLACATE BRAHMINS

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

BARELY five months before the Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday expanded his ministry, inducting one cabinet and six ministers of state.

The new entrants are Jitin Prasada, Chhatrapal Singh Gangwar, Paltu Ram, Sangeeta Balwant Bind, Sanjeev Kumar Gond, Dinesh Khatik, and Dharmaveer Singh Prajapati. Prasada got the lone cabinet berth, ostensibly to placate the Brahmin voters who are said to be sulking. He had crossed over from the Congress in June this year.

Yogi Adityanath

Despite speculation, A K Sharma, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's trusted bureaucrat who had taken voluntary retirement as MSME secretary in Delhi and joined the BJP in Lucknow in January, failed to make it to the Yogi cabinet. He was appointed vice-president of the state BJP unit in June.

Sunday's expansion is being seen as an exercise to balance various caste equations ahead of the elections. Significantly, no sitting minister was dropped. Of the seven, there were three OBCs and two SC, indicating its continued outreach to those segments of society. The sixth person is a member of the Scheduled Tribe, Sandeep Kumar Gond from Sonebhadra. The seventh is a Brahmin. Of the two SC MLAs, Paltu Ram is a Jatav and Dinesh Khatik a Sonker. Most of the new inductees belong to the castes that were either not or less represented in the government. Chhatrapal Gangwar, a Kurmi by caste, is an MLA from Baheri constituency in Bareilly parliamentary constituency. His elevation is being seen as a replacement to Santosh Gangwar, an eight-time MP from Bareilly, who was dropped from Modi cabinet recently. Ghazipur MLA Sangeeta Balwant Bind's induction is being seen as the BJP's bid to create its own Nishad leadership, though it has forged an alliance with the NISHAD party, led by Dr Sanjay Nishad. This was the second expansion of Yogi's government. The first one happened in 2019.

SIDHU STAMP SEEN IN MINISTRY EXPANSION

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

AMID last minute pulls and pressures, 15 Congress lawmakers, including seven freshers, took their oaths of office and secrecy as ministers in Punjab. The Charanjit Singh Channi ministry is loaded with Sikhs, but also has three members of the Scheduled Castes, four Hindus, one OBC and one Muslim. As usual, the Malwa region of the state got the biggest share of berths.

Eight of them were part of the outgoing Amarinder ministry. Among the new entrants are Amrinder Singh Raja Warring and Pargat Singh, both of whom are close to Punjab Congress unit president Navjot Singh Sidhu. Gurkirat Singh Kotli, grandson of former chief minister Beant Singh, too got a berth for the first time.

Navjot Singh Sidhu

The Sidhu stamp was evident in the expansion of the ministry as only two ministers considered close to Amarinder were retained. However, they are also close to the Congress high command. One controversial induction was that of Rana Gurjit Singh, a former irrigation minister. He was sworn in despite pressure from seven prominent party leaders from the Doaba region of the state, who wrote to Sidhu and Channi alleging Gurjit's involvement in a sand mining scam. He had to resign from the Amarinder cabinet in 2018 because of the scam.

However, Sidhu unsuccessfully tried to accommodate Kuljit Nagra from Fatehgarh Sahib, working president of the Punjab Congress, in the ministry. Nagra's name was dropped at the last minute to include Randeep Nabha from Amloh to improve regional balance following intervention by Congress president Sonia Gandhi. Nabha was also seen as more experienced.

Channi opposed the induction of both Pargat and Nagra, saying they were holding important positions in party, but failed to block Pargat. In all, six ministers are from the Majha region of Punjab, while the rest are from Malwa. At 43, Warring is the youngest minister, while Tripat Rajinder Singh Bajwa, 78, is the oldest. P7

Caste census chorus by Nitish, Naveen & Soren

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ Patna/New Delhi

DESPITE the Centre recently ruling out caste census in 2021 in its affidavit before the Supreme Court, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Sunday pressed ahead saying it was the need of the hour and served national interest. Similar demands came from chief ministers of Jharkhand and Odisha during Sunday's meeting in Delhi with Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Left-wing extremism.

While Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren submitted a memorandum in support of caste-based census, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said his government would do whatever is sensible to reduce discrimination in his state.

Addressing media after the Delhi meeting, Nitish said enumeration of castes was key to effective implementation of welfare schemes and "it would not be proper if it is not conducted".

Nitish said he would convene an all-party meeting in Bihar to discuss the situation and chart the future course.

While Nitish said that he does not see any point in leaving the NDA over this issue, his statement put the Bihar BJP in a tight spot as it has been advised by its leadership to expose the parties demanding caste census. Three of the four NDA constituents — JD(U), HAM and VIP — have broken ranks and are supporting the Opposition on the issue.

Nitish Kumar

Hemant Soren

SUSHIL BATS FOR CENTRE

Former Bihar Dy CM Sushil Kumar Modi defended the Centre's line, saying caste-based census was difficult as it was not 'just a matter of adding a column'.

NATIONWIDE	SEPT 25	SEPT 26
Fresh cases	29,616	28,326
Recoveries	28,046	26,032
Deaths	290	260

KARNATAKA	SEPT 25	SEPT 26
Fresh cases	787	775
Recoveries	775	860
Deaths	11	9

WITH THIS ISSUE

THE ESSENTIAL CAMPUS DIGEST edex

32 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID), 4 OF CITY EXPRESS

FIERY BATSMAN

Kohli first Indian to hit 10,000 runs in T20

ASHIM SUNAM @ Bengaluru

TOP batsman Virat Kohli has added another feather in his illustrious cap, becoming the first Indian and the fifth player in the sport to complete 10,000 T20 runs. He joins the elite list, which also includes the 'Universe Boss' Chris Gayle, Keiron Pollard, Shoaib Malik and David Warner. The Royal Challengers Bangalore captain reached the landmark in the Indian Premier League game against Mumbai Indians at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

In fact, he brought his individual milestone in style, hitting a six off pacer Jasprit Bumrah in the fourth over of the contest. In order to complete the feat, the skipper needed 13 runs, and he delivered the goods for his franchise with a half-century, helping them score 165/6. Kohli's 51 was laced with three fours and three sixes, which helped RCB cruise to victory. However, he should consider himself lucky to achieve the feat on Sunday as he was dropped on zero by Rahul Chahar.

RCB skipper Virat Kohli celebrates his half-century during the IPL clash with Mumbai Indians in Dubai on Sunday | PTI

Besides having played for the Bangalore franchise since the first edition of the league, he has been a solid performer for India in the T20Is as well. He made his Delhi T20 debut in 2007, and has gone on to become one of the best batsmen in the world. The 32-year-old is the highest-run scorer in the IPL so far.

HAL, Alliance Air ink pact for aircraft supply to Arunachal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

HAL on Sunday signed a lease agreement with Alliance Air Aviation Ltd for the supply of two Civil Dornier-228 aircraft for regional operations in Arunachal Pradesh, which is seen as a major boost to India's Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS).

Apurba Roy, General Manager, Transport Aircraft Division, Kanpur, HAL, and Arun Kumar Bansal, Head of Engineering, Alliance Air, signed the agreement in Bengaluru.

The HAL Do-228 is a versatile aircraft suited for operations in the North-East and has the capabilities of short takeoff and landing, and the ability to land and take off from semi-prepared runways. This opens new vistas in civil aviation for Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.

HAL said it is keen on increasing its footprint in regional civil aviation by tying up with air operators and engaging more HAL Do-228s.

Attending the event virtually, Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu said it is a big day for the state, given the geographical challenges in the vast state. The connectivity will now be easier, he added.

HAL's Transport Aircraft Division, Kanpur, has been in the business of transport and trainer aircraft for defence customers.

CONTINUED ON: P2

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